University of Rhode Island and State Engagement Strategies

Around the Common Core and PARCC

Project Title: *Rhode Island Higher Education Common Core, PARCC, and College Readiness Engagement Project*

Institution: University of Rhode Island

Project Director(s)/Contact person(s): Dr. Cornelis de Groot (degrootc@mail.uri.edu), Dr. Diane Kern (dkern@uri.edu) and Dr. David Byrd (dbyrd@uri.edu), will serve as project directors and contact persons for purposes of report writing, budget and communication.

Cornelis de Groot, Associate Professor, School of Education, University of Rhode Island

Diane Kern, Associate Professor, School of Education, University of Rhode Island

David M. Byrd, Professor, Director, School of Education, University of Rhode Island

Total Funds Requested $99,979.17

**Program Description and Budget Information**

*Project Objectives*:

The purpose of this project is to improve Rhode Island preparation to implement the Common Core Standards and PARCC college readiness expectations by encouraging collaboration and dialogue among arts and sciences professors, teacher education professors and K-12 teachers and administrators within URI and across the state. This will be accomplished by focusing on the implementation of a plan to ensure articulation between the Common Core standards, the content knowledge of teacher education candidates and their ability to apply this knowledge as beginning teachers. This proposal outlines engagement strategies and a timeline to pursue and integrate the Common Core State Standards and PARCC “college ready” expectations into:

1. university gateway courses, (e.g., mathematics, English, writing, communication)
2. teacher preparation curriculum
3. classroom professional development efforts toward college readiness.
4. statewide actionable information for higher educators

*Project activities*:

The project’s activities will center around the following engagement strategies: collegial collaboration, collegial articulation, stakeholder interaction, inter-collegial exchange/discourse, providing access to curricular resources, disseminating resources, and syllabus revision support (See Appendix A: Timeline).

Drs. de Groot, Kern, and Byrd will manage the activities in this project as supported by the proposed budget. They will have additional support from two research associates and a URI student with technical know-how.

Drs. de Groot and Kern will begin by recruiting the support staff. As a first activity in this project they will invite two colleagues from each School of Education team and from each of the following A&S departments to join the Core Steering Committee (CSC): mathematics, computer science, English, writing, and communication. They will meet with this group on a bi-weekly basis. The CSC has the following tasks: 1. Develop symposia for A&S and education faculty, culminating in a final symposium which will include a major keynote, middle school and high school teacher panels, school administrator panels, and faculty from other colleges in the state (see Appendix A). 2. Arts and sciences members of the CSC will guide the curriculum revision process to incorporate college readiness expectations into the syllabi of gateway courses, while education faculty will guide a similar process of revision regarding teacher education courses.

In collaboration with Mrs. Mona Niedbala, Curriculum Materials Library (CML) director, Drs. de Groot and Kern will acquire and promote the use of common core and PARCC college readiness curricular materials. These materials will be available for direct use in the classroom by faculty and inservice and preservice teachers across Rhode Island and will be used in the teacher education program and professional development activities.

To provide the broader P-20 community with resources that we develop an Internet portal will be developed under the guidance of the project directors and the support of a web-savvy student. We plan to maintain and enhance this portal beyond the life of the grant.

Last, we plan to distribute a statewide weekly e-Newsletter produced by the research associates and supervised by the project directors. In this e-newsletter we will keep the broader P-20 community abreast with developments in Rhode Island as well as nationally regarding the Common Core and PARCC college readiness expectations.

### Project Budget

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| --- | --- |
| PERSONNEL |  |
| Project Directors | $19,921.05 |
| Student Assistant | $ 2,660.00 |
| Research Associates | $10,304.00 |
| Stipends/Consultants/Evaluator | $43,000.00 |
| Benefits | $ 788.26 |
|  |  |
| OPERATING |  |
| Catering | $2,700.00 |
| Office Supplies | $ 800.00 |
| Educational Supplies | $8,500.00 |
| Computer Supplies | $2,500.00 |
| Printing/Copying | $900.00 |
| Mileage | $500.00 |
|  |  |
| SUBTOTAL | $92,573.31 |
| Overhead 8% | $7,405.86 |
|  |  |
| TOTAL BUDGET | $99,979.17 |

*Budget narrative*:

Our activities outlined in this grant proposal focus on engagement of Higher Education faculty at the University of Rhode Island and other colleges in Rhode Island in Common Core and PARCC college readiness expectations.

*Personnel*:

Project Directors (3) will be responsible for the execution of the entire project and all the products, direct the work of the research associates and the student assistant, chair the Core Steering Committee, and liaison with colleges in Rhode Island.

Research Associates (2) will be responsible to research Common Core and PARCC college readiness resources and notes of interest in mathematics and English language arts, maintain a database of Rhode Island stakeholders, create a weekly newsletter, and assist with the design and organization, and logistics of the symposia. Each contracted for 14 weeks @ 23 hours per week.

Student Technical Assistant (1) will be responsible for creating and maintaining an Internet portal to provide access to the resources that the project produces, and assists with day to day logistical and clerical tasks. Contracted for 14 weeks @ 20 hours per week.

Core Steering Committee members (14) are responsible for bringing tasks, such as curricular revisions) and resources to their respective teams and departments and to support these efforts. They are also responsible for co-creating the symposia and culminating symposium. Stipend @ $1150 per faculty member.

Stipends/Consultants/Evaluator:

The project will contract an independent evaluator @ $5000 (5% of the grant)

Culminating Symposium Higher Education Participants (40) will receive an honorarium of $200.

Culminating Symposium HS and MS teacher panelists (8) will receive honorarium of $200.

Higher Education Coordinators at other colleges (3 per college for a total of 24) will receive $200 stipend each for liaison work.

Culminating Symposium keynote speaker and transportation/lodging cost @ $7500

*Operating*:

Catering: Coffee and lunch will be provided for participants at the symposia and the culminating symposium.

Office supplies: such as copy machine paper, folders, pens, pencils etc. to support the symposia.

Educational supplies: to support college readiness curricular materials for the symposia and the Curriculum Materials Library

Computer supplies: to support the development of a web portal and the e-Newsletters and presentations/work during the symposia

Printing/copying: of brochures and symposia materials and print materials for broader distribution

Mileage: for travel within Rhode Island for the project directors.

*Totals*: The total direct cost of this project is $92,573.31. Indirect costs will be billed at 8% (total $7,405.86). Consequently the total cost of this proposal is $99,979.17.

Appendix A: Timeline

**Objective 1:** Support the integration of Common Core and PARCC with university gateway courses at URI.

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| Engagement Strategy | Activity/Product | Timeline | Personnel responsible |
| Collaboration | Form a core Arts & Sciences and Education Steering Committee  (Mathematics, English, Writing, Communication, Computer Science) | September 2012 | Cornelis de Groot  Diane Kern |
| Collegial articulation | Bi-weekly Core Steering Committee meetings | October, November,  December 2012 | Cornelis de Groot  Diane Kern  Research Associates  Two faculty from each A&S department and Education teams |
| Stakeholder  interaction | Symposia developed by the Steering Committee for gateway course instructors and administrators | Late November-  December 2012 | Steering Committee  Research Associates |
| Support syllabus  revisions | Within the A&S departments and teams steering committee members support the syllabus revision process of gateway courses | December 2012 | A&S steering  committee members |

**Objective 2**: Support the integration of Common Core and PARCC with teacher preparation curriculum at URI.

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| Engagement Strategy | Activity/Product | Timeline | Personnel responsible |
| Collegial articulation | Syllabus Workshop 1 to align Common Core and PARCC college readiness expectations | October 2012 | Diane Kern  Cornelis de Groot  Research Associates |
| Support syllabus revisions | Syllabus Workshop 2.  Peer review and revision of syllabi drafts | November 2012 | Diane Kern  Cornelis de Groot  Research Associates  Steering Committee |

**Objective 3**: Facilitate classroom professional development efforts toward college readiness.

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| Engagement Strategy | Activity/Product | Timeline | Personnel responsible |
| Providing access to  curriculum materials  and technology  aligned with Common  Core and PARCC  college readiness | Acquire and make  available and  promote to the P-20  community these  materials and  technology in the  Curriculum  Materials Library at  URI | October-December 2012 | Diane Kern  Cornelis de Groot  Mona Niedbala  (Curriculum Materials  Librarian) |

**Objective 4:** Provide higher education colleagues across the state with actionable information about the Common Core and PARCC.

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| Engagement Strategy | Activity/Product | Timeline | Personnel responsible |
| dissemination of  resources | Creating a public  Internet portal | Ongoing September - December 2012 | Cornelis de Groot  Student(s) |
| dissemination of  resources | Weekly information  e-Newsletter | Ongoing October -  December | Cornelis de Groot  Students(s) |
| Inter-collegial  exchange | Culminating  symposium, including  URI, PC, RIC,  Salve, Roger  Williams, Johnson  and Wales, CCRI,  Brown, and Bryant  faculty, major keynote  address, and MS and  HS teacher panels. | Late November 2012 | Cornelis de Groot  Diane Kern  Research Associate  Students  David Byrd  Steering Committee |